

Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 /092 W

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O P 161120Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8657

INFO USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE 452

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 2077

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CZ, PR, UN

SUBJECT: PUERTO RICO AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24

REF: STATE 194115 (NOTAL)

1. CHARGE OUT OF PRAGUE ON WEEKEND TRIP. POLCOUNSELOR OBTAINED SATURDAY MORNING APPOINTMENT WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER VEJVODA, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR UN AFFAIRS, AND MADE POINTS LISTED PARA 2 A THROUGH E OF REFTEL.

2. VEJVODA, WHO IS OLD UN HAND AND QUITE CONVERSANT WITH PUERTO RICAN ISSUE, STRESSED THAT GOC HAD NO WISH TO OFFEND USG ON THIS MATTER, BUT THAY THEY MUST ALSO TAKE CARE NOT TO OFFEND "THOSE WHO SUPPORT US". HE HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY REPORT FROM NEW YORK ON THE QUESTION, PROBABLY, HE SAID, BECAUSE PERMREP SMID VACATIONING IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND GOC REP ON COMMITTEE OF 24 MORE CONCERNED WITH PRE-TRANSFER PACKING THAN WITH COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS. HE THEREFORE ESPECIALLY APPRECIATED OUR CALLING IT TO HIS
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ATTENTION AND INDICATING THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE MATTER.

3. WHILE EMPHASIZING THAT HE COULD NOT AT THIS POINT SAY HOW GOC WOULD VOTE, VEJVODA UNDERTOOK TO CABLE NEW YORK IMMEDIATELY FOR STATUS REPORT AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SOLUTION COULD BE FOUND WHICH WOULD AVOID "HURTING FEELINGS" OF USG ON ISSUE WHICH OBVIOUSLY EXTREME IMPORTANCE TO US. HE LEFT NO HOPE, HOWEVER, THAT GOC WOULD BE ABLE (OR WILLING) TO STAND AGAINST ITS ALLIES WHEN RESOLUTION COMES TO VOTE. WHILE HE DID NOT SAY SO EXPLICITLY, IMPLICATION WAS THAT BEST HOPE PROBABLY LIES IN REVISION OF RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE GRANTING OF OBSERVER STATUS.

4. TO POINT THAT GOC SUPPORT FOR CUBAN RESOLUTION WOULD HAVE CONSEQUENCES IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, VEJVODE WENT "OFF THE RECORD" TO WONDER HOW THEY COULD BE MUCH WORSE. POLCOUNSELOR REFERRED TO POSITIVE TONE OF FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK'S REMARKS CONCERNING HIS MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY IN HELSINKI (PRAGUE 1990), AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT GOC COULD REFRAIN FROM ANY ACTION WHICH MIGHT DETER MOMENTUM GENERATED THERE.

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE GOC WOULD IN FACT PREFER SOLUTION WHICH WOULD ENABLE IT TO AVOID SUPPORTING CUBAN RESOLUTION AS IT STANDS, BUT IN FIANL ANALYSIS THEY WILL VOTE AS DO SOVIETS. VEJVODA DEPARTING MONDAY MORNING FOR BUDAPEST TO ATTEND PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS OF SOVIET AND EE REPRESENTATIVES. IF NOT OVERTAKEN BY EARLY VOTE IN NEW YORK, MATTER MAY WELL BE DISCUSSED AND DECISION REACHED THERE.

6. EMBASSY WILL CHECK WITH MFA AUGUST 18 TO ASCERTAIN RESULTS OF VEJVODA'S CONTACT WITH NEW YORK AND STATUS OF GOC CONSIDERATION OF ISSUE.
PERRY

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